

support the motion to bracket this bill. There is an aspect of this bill that hasn't been discussed or even approached, and that is the legal problem of the conflict between the proposed bill and federal law, as interpreted by the federal courts. This matter hasn't been addressed. The law substantially changed as a result of the litigation that resulted from the Three Mile Island problem. It is an area that we may even need an Attorney General's opinion on. This has to be looked into and my concern, frankly, is that this bill may weaken the protection of citizens of this state, and may result in a waiving of some of the benefits that are available under federal law. And I think that aspect of it has to be very carefully examined. Every train that goes through Senator Bernard-Stevens' City of North Platte also goes through Sidney. As a matter of fact, the Union Pacific Railroad is five blocks away from my home. It is a vital concern to everyone in the western part of the state, and along the Union Pacific and I-80 corridors. So I think this bill needs a great deal more study than it has been given, and great deal more attention because I don't think this legislative body wants to enact something that is going to lessen the protections and lessen the availability of resources to meet some damages or losses that are presently afforded under federal statute, and is a highly technical matter. I have got the case references, but I haven't had the time to do the legal research. It is a matter that is going to have to be addressed, and, quite simply, we don't have the time at this time, and we are going to have to take at least a couple of looks at it next time, so I strongly support the bracket motion.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Matzke. Senator Chambers, your light is next. Waives off. Thank you. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Call the question.

SENATOR HALL: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate.

SENATOR HALL: Debate is ceased. Senator Bernard-Stevens, you are recognized to close on the motion to bracket.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. President, and members